

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing apparatus for printing on a printing medium, employing a printing head, said apparatus comprising:

5 feeding means for feeding a printing medium toward said printing head;

 detection means for detecting an edge of said printing medium fed by said feeding means; and

 control means for controlling the driving of said
10 feeding means so as to (1) cause said feeding means to initiate the feeding of a succeeding printing medium after said feeding means initiates the feeding of a preceding printing medium and before said detection
15 means detects a trailing edge of the preceding printing medium and (2) cause a leading edge of the succeeding printing medium to arrive at said at said detection means after said detection means detects the trailing edge of the preceding printing medium.

20 2. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein on the basis of information capable of specifying the length in a paper feeding direction of the preceding printing medium, said feeding means initiates the feeding of the succeeding printing
25 medium.

3. A printing apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein said information capable of specifying the length of the preceding printing medium in the paper feeding direction is supplied from anything other than said printing apparatus.

5

4. A printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said information capable of specifying the length of the preceding printing medium in the paper feeding direction is supplied by a host computer
10 connected to said printing apparatus.

5. A printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said information capable of specifying the length of the preceding printing medium in said paper
15 feeding direction is entered to said printing apparatus by an operator.

6. A printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said information capable of specifying the
20 length of the preceding printing medium in the paper feeding direction is information capable of specifying the size of a printing medium, internally obtained in said printing apparatus.

25 7. A printing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said information capable of specifying the size of a printing medium, internally obtained in said

printing apparatus is obtained in accordance with a paper cassette into which printing media are loaded.

8. A printing apparatus according to claim 2,
5 wherein said information capable of specifying the length of the preceding printing medium in the paper feeding direction is information concerning the width of a printing medium.

10 9. A printing apparatus according to one of claims 1 to 8, wherein said printing head is an ink-jet print head that employs thermal energy to eject ink.

15 10. A printing method for printing on a printing medium, employing a printing head, said method comprising the steps of:

feeding a printing medium toward said printing head;

20 initiating the feeding of a succeeding printing medium toward the printing head, after the feeding of a preceding printing medium is initiated and before a trailing edge of the preceding printing medium is detected at a predetermined position; and

25 feeding the succeeding printing medium so that a leading edge of the succeeding printing medium arrives at the predetermined position after the leading edge of the preceding printing medium is detected at the predetermined position.